

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3271

ANSWERED ON:06.09.2007

GAUGE CONVERSION OF NAGPUR-CHHINDWADA RAILWAY LINE

Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Gawali Smt. Bhavana Pundlikrao

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of the work relating to conversion of Chhindwada narrow gauge line into broad gauge line between Nagpur and Chhindwada in the State of Maharashtra;
- (b) whether the work on the said project is running behind the schedule;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to expedite the completion of the said work?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) to (d): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3271 BY SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE & SHRIMATI BHAVANA P. GAWALI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 06.09.2007 REGARDING GAUGE CONVERSION OF NAGPUR-CHHINDWADA RAILWAY LINE

(a): Final Location Survey has been completed. Geotechnical surveys for the major bridges and tunnels have been completed and structural designing has been taken up. All applications for acquisition of private and government land have been submitted. Forestland acquisition is under process. Cost of land except the forestland has been paid to the concerned authorities. Earthwork between Chhindwara-Umranala (24 Kms) has been taken up. Out of 254 minor bridges to be built, construction of pre-cast boxes for 169 minor bridges has been taken up. Out of 27 major bridges to be constructed, work on 3 bridges has been taken up and tendering for 18 other bridges is under process. An expenditure of Rs. 13.38 crore has been incurred on the project till 31.03.2007. An outlay of Rs. 70 crore has been provided for the project in the Budget 2007-08.

(b) to (d): The target for the work has not yet been fixed. However, the gauge conversion involved detouring for certain length due to sharp curves and gradients and final location survey has taken time. Some of the tenders also could not be finalized. All efforts are being made to expedite the progress of project.